

Stories, myths and legends

The Golden Cave

You can find the Golden Cave at the foot of the rock pinnacle on the headland. The Cave, also known as the 'Pipers Cave' is reputed to be the largest on Skye. Legend has it that a piper once began a walk through the cave playing his pipes. Ghostly pipes could be heard all the way to Loch Bay at Waternish where the piper re-emerged.



Thorfinn

Thorfinn, the great Scottish King, also known as MacBeth, sailed his great fleet to the top of Skye, arriving in Loch Bay to defeat his enemies who were moored safely off Loch Bracadale, a long sail round Waternish Point, Loch Dunvegan and Glendale. Instead, Thorfinn ordered his ships to be hauled out of the water and carried overland to Bracadale during the night, where he carried out a surprise attack and defeated his foes.

King Hako

Following his defeat at sea in 1263, King Hako's fleet put into Loch Bracadale to patch up their bruises, but then sank without a trace. No-one really knows why. Hako's defeat should have started a time of peace and prosperity, instead clans went to war for the next 300 years!!



The Faerie Flag

Dunvegan has been home to the MacLeod chiefs for over 700 years. An early Chief of the clan married a faerie queen. When the Chief got old, his queen returned to faerie land. She gave the old Chief a faerie flag with the power grant three wishes and bring shoals of herring to Loch Dunvegan so his clan never went hungry. One wish was used to help the MacLeods win the battle of Glendale in 1490, another to overcome the MacDonalds at Trumpan. The third and final wish will be used to help the clan when it faces its greatest hour of need.